

REMARKS

Claims 3-5 have been rejected in the Office Action under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to conform with 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The rejection to claim 4, however, is respectfully traversed for the following reason. The term "the echo signals" properly refers back to the "echo signals" recited in the "evaluating" limitations of claim 1, amended in the prior response. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 4 be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2 and 5 have been newly rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Lewis (U.S. Patent No. 4,319,242). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Lewis discloses a system for integrating weapon control radars which operate at the same or different frequency bands, and permit every weapon control radar to lock through every weapon control antenna, thereby enabling all radars to be used against all targets. The Examiner, most notably, discusses Figure 3 as showing four antennae. In this regard, the Examiner states that "the [activating] step [of claim 1 of the invention] may be read to mean that all of the radars are powered up at the same time, not necessarily that they are transmitting at the same time."

Applicant's respectfully disagree with the Examiner. Claim 1 (as amended) requires "successively activating and deactivating the at least three transmitting and receiving devices such that at least two adjacent transmitting and receiving devices are operated simultaneously." As discussed on page 3, lines 4-6 of the instant specification, the "terms successive activation and deactivation in this case mean that the beam fields are not all active at the same time." This is particularly advantageous because it incorporates both the "simultaneous lobing" and "sequential lobing" methods into one method which compensates for the disadvantages of the two methods. Lewis does not teach or disclose successive activation and deactivation as claimed in the present invention.

Since the recited method is not disclosed by the applied prior art, claims 1-5 are patentable. All claims now being in condition for allowance, an indication of the same is solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122006000. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 25, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

For the convenience of the Examiner, the changes made are shown below with deleted text in strikethrough and added text in underline.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3 and 5 as follows.

1. (Amended) A method for detecting target objects using a radar device, comprising:
arranging at least three transmitting and receiving devices for radar beams such that their
beam fields form a detection area of the radar device;

successively activating and deactivating the at least three transmitting and receiving
devices such that at least two adjacent transmitting and receiving devices are operated
simultaneously; and

evaluating echo signals from the transmitting and receiving devices using monopulse
radar.

3. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the [currently]
deactivated transmitting and receiving devices is reactivated for activation of the at least [two]
three transmitting and receiving devices.

5. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the position angle of the
target object relative to the radar device is determined by comparison of beam intensities of the
at least [two] three transmitting and receiving devices.